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8 Ruben Lopez

9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

10 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 BONA FIDE CONGLOMERATE, INC.,

Case No.: 14cv0751 GPC (AGS)

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 SOURCEAMERICA, et al.,

15 Defendants.

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
COUNTERDEFENDANTS'
NOTICE OF MOTION FOR
PARTIAL SUMMARY
JUDGMENT**

16 AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIMS

Date: March 30, 2018

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Judge: Hon. Gonzalo P. Curiel

Courtroom: 2D (Schwartz)

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Subscribing to the belief that the best defense is a good offense, Defendant and
3 Counterclaimant SourceAmerica filed counterclaims against Plaintiff and
4 Counterdefendant Bona Fide Conglomerate, Inc. (“Bona Fide”) and Counterdefendant
5 Ruben Lopez (“Lopez”) (collectively, “Counterdefendants”). Counterdefendants
6 challenged the counterclaims in a motion to dismiss. This Court denied the motion to
7 dismiss in part, affording Counterdefendants an opportunity to conduct discovery and
8 challenge the counterclaims at a later stage. Not surprisingly, the extensive discovery
9 produced no admissible facts to support the majority of SourceAmerica’s
10 counterclaims. SourceAmerica conceded the lack of evidence for its breach of
11 contract counterclaim when it withdrew that claim on January 5, 2018.

12 Partial summary judgment should be entered against SourceAmerica on its
13 California Invasion of Privacy Act (“CIPA”) counterclaim because the majority of the
14 claim lacks merit, as a matter of fact and law. First, SourceAmerica failed to produce
15 any evidence in discovery establishing that Jean Robinson (“Robinson”), General
16 Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer for SourceAmerica at the time, did not consent
17 to being recorded. As such, Counterdefendants are not liable as to any of the twenty-
18 one (21) recordings between Lopez and Robinson. Second, under a conflict of law
19 analysis, Virginia’s one-party consent law, not California’s two-party consent law,
20 applies to eighteen (18) of the twenty-one (21) telephonic conversations that took
21 place between Lopez and Robinson while Robinson was in Virginia. Where, as here,
22 Lopez consented to each of the recordings, neither Lopez nor Bona Fide are liable
23 under Virginia law. Third, CIPA does not impose liability for conversations that took
24 place wholly outside California. Because three (3) conversations between Lopez and
25 Robinson took place in San Antonio, Texas, and Washington, D.C., Counterdefendants
26 cannot be liable under CIPA as to those recordings. In sum, this Court should enter
27 partial summary judgment in Counterdefendants’ favor on the CIPA counterclaim for
28 the twenty-one (21) recordings of conversations between Lopez and Robinson.

Judgment should be entered against SourceAmerica on its California Unfair Competition Law (“UCL”) counterclaim for several independent reasons:

- SourceAmerica cannot be granted the relief it requests. Only two remedies are available to redress violations of the UCL: injunctive relief and restitution. Neither of those remedies flows from the conduct alleged by SourceAmerica;
- SourceAmerica released claims based on conduct occurring before the July 27, 2012 Settlement Agreement; and
- To the extent the claim is based on allegations of conduct occurring wholly outside of California, the UCL does not apply.

Bona Fide and Lopez respectfully request the Court enter partial summary judgment as to those causes of action, or portions of causes of action, SourceAmerica cannot establish or to which Counterdefendants have a complete defense.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. Bona Fide Provides Services To The United States Through The Program.

Bona Fide has been providing services to the U.S. General Services Administration (“GSA”) on AbilityOne Program (“Program”) contracts since 2005. It currently provides services to GSA on five Program contracts in three different states.

The Program is a federal government procurement system, which procures services provided by nonprofit agencies employing severely disabled persons (“NPAs”). Once a service and NPA are added to the so-called Procurement List maintained by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission (“Commission”), federal agencies must procure that designated service from the designated NPA unless the NPA cannot meet the agency’s demand. A NPA retains its mandatory sourcing designation as long as it desires or until the procuring agency no longer requires the designated service.

SourceAmerica administers the Program on behalf of the Commission and acts as the exclusive sales agent for a network of NPAs. Among other things, SourceAmerica distributes opportunities for Program contracts (“Opportunities”) among NPAs. Only the Commission may award a Program contract. SourceAmerica

1 selects the NPA to recommend to the Commission, which rubber stamps
 2 SourceAmerica's decision. NPAs compete against each other for Opportunities in
 3 bidding competitions organized and evaluated by SourceAmerica. SourceAmerica
 4 solicits NPA's bids on Opportunities by issuing a Sources Sought Notice, which is the
 5 functional equivalent of bidding specifications.

6 **B. Bona Fide's 2010 and 2012 Bid Protests and the Settlement Agreement.**

7 In 2010, Bona Fide filed a bid protest in the Court of Federal Claims
 8 challenging the Commission's award of a Program contract to a rival NPA, which was
 9 based on SourceAmerica's recommendation ("First Bid Protest"). GSA mooted the
 10 First Bid Protest by agreeing to resolicit the Opportunity. On resolicitation,
 11 SourceAmerica again recommended Bona Fide's rival, and the Commission again
 12 adopted SourceAmerica recommendation.

13 In 2012 Bona Fide challenged the resolicitation in a Second Bid Protest against
 14 the United States in the Court of Federal Claims.

15 Bona Fide and SourceAmerica settled the dispute regarding the resolicitation in
 16 a July 27, 2012 agreement ("Settlement Agreement") (UMF¹ 12-14).

17 **C. Lopez Recorded Conversations Between Himself and Robinson.**

18 On May 5, 2013, Lopez began recording Robinson at a conference they both
 19 attended in San Antonio, Texas. Lopez subsequently recorded twenty-one (21)
 20 conversations he had with her, until January 2014. Three of the recorded
 21 conversations took place in person in San Antonio, Texas, and Washington, D.C. All
 22 other conversations—eighteen in total—took place over the telephone while Lopez
 23 was in California and Robinson was in Virginia (UMF 1-2, 4-7).

24 **III. PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

25 On April 4, 2016, Bona Fide filed a motion to dismiss SourceAmerica's
 26 amended counterclaims (Dkt. 309). In its reply brief, SourceAmerica conceded that

27
 28 ¹ "UMF" refers to the facts that Counterdefendants have designated as undisputed and material in their separate statement.

1 the Settlement Agreement's release applies to all conduct, events, and occurrences
 2 prior to July 27, 2012 (UMF 15). On June 29, 2016, the Court issued an order
 3 granting in part and denying in part Bona Fide's motion to dismiss, without disposing
 4 of claims based on alleged pre-settlement conduct (Dkt. 319).

5 Shortly thereafter, Bona Fide and Lopez served contention discovery on
 6 SourceAmerica. After numerous meet-and-confers and motions to compel,
 7 SourceAmerica responded to the counterclaim contention discovery.

8 On January 5, 2018, SourceAmerica informed Counterdefendants that it would
 9 no longer be pursuing its counterclaim for breach of contract (JTE Decl. ¶ 6, Ex. E).

10 **IV. LEGAL STANDARD**

11 Summary judgment is appropriate when there exists no genuine issue as to any
 12 material fact and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R.
 13 Civ. P. 56(a); Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio Corp., 475 U.S. 574, 585-
 14 86 (1986). Where judgment on the entire case is not sought, the Court may adjudicate
 15 certain issues on which the facts are undisputed, and treat those issues as already
 16 established for purposes of trial. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(g).

17 A "shifting burden of proof" governs Rule 56 motions. In re Oracle Corp. Sec.
 18 Litig., 627 F.3d 376, 387 (9th Cir. 2010). Where the nonmovant bears the burden of
 19 proof at trial, the movant need only prove that there is an absence of evidence to
 20 support the nonmovant's case. Id. The burden then shifts to the nonmovant to
 21 designate genuine disputes of material fact for trial. Id.

22 **V. ARGUMENT**

23 **A. Counterdefendants Are Entitled To Partial Summary Judgment On** 24 **SourceAmerica's CIPA Counterclaim As It Relates To The Robinson** **Recordings.**

25 California Penal Code section 632 prohibits the recording of a telephone
 26 conversation without the consent of all parties to the conversation and imposes
 27 liability specifically on "[a] person who, intentionally and without the consent of all
 28 parties to a confidential communication, uses [a] . . . recording device to . . . record the

1 confidential communication” Cal. Penal Code § 632(a). To prove a claim for
2 violation of section 632, a plaintiff must prove: (1) an electronic recording of; (2) a
3 “confidential communication”; and (3) all parties did not consent. Flanagan v.
4 Flanagan, 27 Cal.4th 766, 774-76 (2002).

5 Lopez recorded twenty-one conversations between himself and Robinson.
6 Three of these conversations took place in person in San Antonio, Texas, and
7 Washington, D.C. The other eighteen conversations took place over the telephone
8 while Lopez was in California and Robinson was in Virginia (UMF 1-2, 4-7).

9 SourceAmerica’s CIPA counterclaim fails with regard to the recordings of
10 conversations between Lopez and Robinson because: (1) as to all twenty-one
11 recordings, Robinson consented to being recorded, and consent is an absolute defense;
12 (2) as to the eighteen telephonic recordings, Virginia’s one-party consent laws, not
13 CIPA, apply as a matter of law; and (3) as to the three in person recordings, CIPA
14 does not impose liability as a matter of law on recordings that did not take place solely
15 in California.

16 **1. Robinson Consented To The Recordings.**

17 California law “prohibits only the *secret* or *undisclosed* recording of telephone
18 conversations, that is, the recording of such calls without the knowledge of all parties
19 to the call.” Kearney v. Salomon Smith Barney, Inc., 39 Cal.4th 95, 125, 127 (2006).
20 Lack of consent is therefore an essential element of a CIPA claim, and consent, either
21 express or implied, negates the claim. See CACI 1809 (Cal. Penal Code § 632);
22 White v. FIA Card Servs., N.A., Civil No. 12cv2034 AJB (WVG), 2013 U.S. Dist.
23 LEXIS 27053, at *4-5, 10-11 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 26, 2013); Torres v. Nutrisystem, Inc.,
24 289 F.R.D. 587, 594 (C.D. Cal. 2013).

25 SourceAmerica has produced no evidence that Robinson did not consent to *any*
26 of the recordings. When asked in an interrogatory to “state all facts” that support the
27 allegation that “Lopez recorded Robinson without her consent and without informing
28 her that he was doing so,” Source America merely stated in a conclusory manner that

1 “the transcripts of the conversations . . . establish that Lopez did not notify Robinson
2 that he was recording her or seek her consent to do so.” (UMF 3). SourceAmerica’s
3 response is not enough to avoid partial summary judgment. White, 2013 U.S. Dist.
4 LEXIS 27053, at *17-19 (CIPA does not require verbal disclosure at beginning of
5 every call). Because SourceAmerica must establish as part of its prima facie case that
6 Robinson did not consent, it “must set forth specific facts showing that there is a
7 genuine issue for trial.” Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 321 n.3 (1986); Fed.
8 R. Civ. P. 56(c)(1)(B), (e). It cannot do so here.

9 Accordingly, the Court should grant Counterdefendants partial summary
10 judgment on all of the twenty-one (21) conversations between Lopez and Robinson.

11 **2. Virginia’s One-Party Consent Laws—Not CIPA—Apply To The**
12 **Eighteen Conversations That Took Place While Robinson Was in**
13 **Virginia.**

14 This Court has supplemental and diversity jurisdiction over the counterclaims
15 (Dkt. 308 ¶¶ 8-9). California’s choice-of-law rules therefore apply to determine the
16 counterclaims’ substantive law. Patton v. Cox, 276 F.3d 493, 495 (9th Cir. 2002)
17 (“When a federal court sits in diversity, it must look to the forum state’s choice of law
18 rules to determine the controlling substantive law.”). California requires a choice-of-
19 law analysis for each claim or issue. Wash. Mut. Bank v. Superior Court, 24 Cal.4th
20 906, 920 (2001).

21 *First*, the court determines whether the relevant law of each of the
22 potentially affected jurisdictions with regard to the particular issue in
23 question is the same or different. *Second*, if there is a difference, the
24 court examines each jurisdiction’s interest in the application of its own
25 law under the circumstances of the particular case to determine whether a
26 true conflict exists. *Third*, if the court finds that there is a true conflict, it
carefully evaluates and compares the nature and strength of the interest of
each jurisdiction in the application of its own law “to determine which
state’s interest would be more impaired if its policy were subordinated to
the policy of the other state,” and then ultimately applies “the law of the
state whose interest would be the more impaired if its law were not
applied.”

27 Kearney, 39 Cal.4th at 107-08 (internal citations omitted and emphasis added).

28 ///

1 Under this three-part test, Virginia law governs the CIPA counterclaim as to the
2 eighteen telephonic recordings of conversations between Lopez and Robinson that
3 took place while Robinson was in Virginia. First, California and Virginia privacy
4 laws are different and create a true conflict: California requires both parties to a
5 conversation to consent to being recorded, whereas Virginia only requires one party
6 (here, Lopez) to consent. Compare Cal. Penal Code § 632(a) with Va. Code Ann. §
7 19.2-62(B)(2).

8 Second, under a comparative impairment test, Virginia's interest would be more
9 impaired than California's if its law were not applied. Indeed, courts have dismissed
10 an out-of-state plaintiff's claims against an in-state defendant for violations of CIPA
11 on choice-of-law grounds. In Jonczyk v. First Nat'l Capital Corp., No. SACV 13-
12 959-JLS (AGRx), 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17211, at *1-3 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 22, 2014),
13 the plaintiff, a Missouri resident, sued First National Capital Corp., a corporation
14 headquartered in California, for allegedly recording the plaintiff's calls with a
15 California-based employee that took place while the plaintiff was physically in
16 Missouri and the defendant was physically in California. Missouri, like Virginia, is a
17 one-party consent state. Id. at *7-8.

18 The district court applied California's comparative impairment test to determine
19 which state's law should apply to the alleged claims at issue. Id. at *11-13. The
20 district court determined that Missouri's interests would be significantly impaired if
21 CIPA, and not Missouri's Wiretap Act, was applied to determine the outcome of the
22 case. Id. In reaching its holding, the district court noted that Missouri had
23 intentionally limited the reach of its wiretapping statute so as to curb what it deemed
24 excessive litigation, while the California legislature "specifically stated that its intent
25 was to 'protect the right of privacy of the people [of California]'" as opposed to
26 privacy rights of foreign states' residents. Id. Finding that Missouri's Wiretap Act
27 applied to plaintiff's claims, the district court dismissed the plaintiff's CIPA claims

28 ///

1 with prejudice. Id. at *13; see also In re Yahoo Mail Litig., 308 F.R.D. 577, 604-06
2 (N.D. Cal. 2015) (holding that CIPA is not applicable to non-California class
3 members).

4 This conclusion finds support in the decision of the New York Appellate
5 Division in Locke v. Aston, 814 N.Y.S.2d 38 (N.Y. App. Div. 2006). There, the court
6 considered whether California or New York law applied to the taping of a telephone
7 conversation by a California resident calling a New York resident from California. Id.
8 at 34. The court applied New York's choice of law analysis, which like California's,
9 weighs the interests of the competing jurisdictions. Id. at 37. The court concluded
10 that New York law would apply because CIPA disavowed any interest in protecting
11 non-California residents in its preamble. Id. at 38.

12 In contrast, the California Supreme Court engaged in a choice-of-law analysis
13 in Kearney, 39 Cal. 4th at 95, and determined that CIPA, rather than Georgia's
14 consumer protection statute, applied in claims involving California plaintiffs—whose
15 privacy rights the California legislature specifically intended to protect—and out-of-
16 state defendants.²

17 Here, Virginia adopted a wiretap statute suited to its particular needs, which
18 provides greater protections than the federal wiretapping law. Wilks v.
19 Commonwealth, 217 Va. 885, 887 (1977). Like the Missouri Wiretap Act in Jonczyk,
20 enforcing Virginia's statute would not be contrary to California public policy because
21 CIPA does not apply outside of California and does not purport to protect
22 nonresidents' privacy rights. Id., 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17211, at *11-13.

23 Third, California does not have a greater interest in determining this issue.
24 Because Virginia law "limits or denies liability for the conduct engaged in by the
25

26 ² As this Court noted in its Order on Counterdefendants' Motion to Dismiss (the
27 "Order") (Dkt. 319), Kearney is distinguishable from the facts at hand because it
28 applied CIPA to an *in-state plaintiff* rather than an *out-of-state plaintiff*. Although
the comparative impairment analysis might weigh in favor of California to protect the
interests of a California plaintiff, it weighs in favor of Virginia to protect the interests
of a Virginia plaintiff.

1 defendant in its territory, [Virginia's] interest is predominant" and subordinates
2 California's interest. McCann v. Foster Wheeler LLC, 48 Cal.4th 68, 100-01 (2010).

3 Accordingly, because Virginia law applies to the CIPA counterclaim,
4 Counterdefendants are entitled to a partial summary judgment in their favor on the
5 eighteen (18) conversations between Lopez and Robinson recorded while Robinson
6 was in Virginia.

7 **3. CIPA Does Not Impose Liability For The Three In Person**
8 **Conversations That Took Place Wholly Outside Of California.**

9 There is a general presumption against extraterritorial application of a statute.
10 Diamond Multimedia Systems, Inc. v. Superior Court, 19 Cal.4th 1036, 1059 (1999).
11 Courts presume the Legislature did not intend a statute to be "operative, with respect
12 to occurrences outside the state, . . . unless such intention is clearly expressed or
13 reasonably to be inferred 'from the language of the act or from its purpose, subject
14 matter or history.'" Id. (quoting North Alaska Salmon Co. v. Pillsbury, 174 Cal. 1, 4
15 (1916)).

16 An out-of-state defendant has no remedy under a California statute for acts
17 occurring wholly outside of the state. Norwest Mortg., Inc. v. Superior Court, 72
18 Cal.App.4th 214, 224-25 (1999). For example, the court in Norwest Mortg., Inc., held
19 that the UCL could not be the basis for a suit where, although the defendant was a
20 California insurer, the "injuries [were] suffered by non-California residents, caused by
21 conduct occurring outside of California's borders, by defendants whose headquarters
22 and principal places of operations are outside of California." Id.; see also North
23 Alaska Salmon Co., 174 Cal. 1 (injury occurring outside California).

24 Lopez recorded conversations between Robinson and himself on May 5, 2013
25 and May 8, 2013 in San Antonio, Texas, and September 25, 2013 in Washington, D.C.
26 (UMF 5-7). Because there is no genuine dispute as to any material facts with regard
27 to the location of these three recordings, they should be barred on extraterritoriality
28 grounds.

B. Counterdefendants Are Entitled To Partial Summary Judgment On SourceAmerica's UCL Counterclaim.

The UCL prohibits “any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act.” Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200. Because the statute is disjunctive, “[a]n act can be alleged to violate any or all of the three prongs of the UCL.” Berryman v. Merit Prop. Mgmt., Inc., 152 Cal.App.4th 1544, 1554 (2007). Counterdefendants are entitled to partial summary judgment on the UCL counterclaims, for several independent reasons.

1. The Relief Sought Would Not Remedy the Alleged Harm.³

As a preliminary matter, “[Bona Fide] [is] entitled to summary judgment based on [SourceAmerica's] failure to disclose their damages computation.” Hoffman v. Impact Confections, Inc., 544 F.Supp.2d 1121, 1128 (S.D. Cal. 2008). “[SourceAmerica's] [initial] disclosures are deficient, as [SourceAmerica] provides no computation of its claimed damages for disgorgement of profits.” Ketab Corp. v. Mesriani Law Grp., No. CV 14-07241-RSWL-MRWx, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 37151, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 18, 2016); see also Anhing Corp. v. Viet Phu, Inc., 671 F.App'x 956, 958 (9th Cir. 2016) (disgorgement of profits must be included in initial disclosure's computation of damages requirement). Indeed, SourceAmerica never mentions any UCL relief—injunctive, restitutionary, or otherwise—in its initial disclosures. (UMF 8-9).

Moreover, SourceAmerica is not entitled to any relief provided for under the UCL. “[O]nly two remedies are available to redress violations of the UCL: injunctive relief and restitution.” Feitelberg v. Credit Suisse First Boston, LLC, 134 Cal.App.4th 997, 1012 (2005).

SourceAmerica does not mention restitutionary relief in its discovery responses (UMF 10). When asked to describe in detail each injury which SourceAmerica contends was caused by Counterdefendants, SourceAmerica stated that

³ In its Motion to Dismiss, Counterdefendants argued that SourceAmerica may not recover damages on its UCL claim as a matter of law. The Court agreed, granting Counterdefendants' motion with respect to UCL damages (Dkt. 319, at 20:2-6).

1 Counterdefendants’ “wrongful acts directly and proximately caused SourceAmerica
2 substantial injury, including . . . harm to SourceAmerica’s reputation; time and
3 expense of debriefs provided by SourceAmerica that were requested in bad faith by
4 Bona Fide; lost CNA fees; lost opportunities/projects; lost strategic alliances; loss of
5 insurance and increased premiums; third party consultant fees; and litigation, other
6 legal costs, and expenses to deal with special Board meetings, the media, press,
7 Congressional inquiries as well as expanded federal government investigations that it
8 would not have incurred but for Bona Fide’s unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent
9 conduct.” (UMF 11). None of this alleged harm is recoverable under the UCL. First,
10 Counterdefendants never took anything from SourceAmerica, so there is nothing to
11 “restore.” See Watson Labs., Inc. v. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, Inc., 178 F.Supp.2d 1099
12 (C.D. Cal. 2001); Baugh v. CBS, Inc., 828 F.Supp. 745, 757 (N.D. Cal. 1993).
13 Second, harm to reputation and goodwill are not capable of restitution. See Citizens
14 of Humanity, LLC v. Costco Wholesale Corp., 171 Cal.App.4th 1, 22 (2009)
15 *overruled on other grounds by Kwikset Corp. v. Superior Court*, 51 Cal.4th 310, 337
16 (2011).

17 SourceAmerica also seeks punitive damages. However, punitive damages are
18 not permitted under the UCL. Czechowski v. Tandy Corp., 731 F.Supp. 406, 410
19 (N.D. Cal. 1990) (no punitive damages available); Southwest Marine, Inc. v. Triple A
20 Machine Shop, Inc., 720 F.Supp. 805, 810 (N.D. Cal. 1989) (same).

21 Therefore, the only relief conceptually possible is injunctive. SourceAmerica
22 alleges that it “has been, and without this Court’s intercession will continue to be,
23 irreparably harmed by Lopez’s business practices . . . [and] is entitled to an injunction
24 prohibiting Lopez from engaging in similar unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business
25 practices and preventing Lopez from further making unfair, deceptive, untrue, or
26 misleading statements.” (Dkt. 308 ¶ 69). However, UCL injunctive relief “requires a
27 threat that the misconduct to be enjoined is likely to be repeated in the future.”
28 Madrid v. Perot Sys. Corp., 130 Cal.App.4th 440, 465 (2005). Where as here,

SourceAmerica produces no evidence of recidivism, it “fails to meet its burden under California law to establish that the harm is likely to recur.” Acad. of Motion Picture Arts & Scis. v. GoDaddy.com, Inc., No. CV 10-03738-AB (CWx), 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 186627, at *35 (C.D. Cal. Apr. 10, 2015).⁴

Accordingly, “[b]ecause [SourceAmerica’s] only remedy under the UCL is moot, it cannot proceed on those claims as a matter of law, and the Court [should] grant [Counterdefendants’] motion for partial summary judgment on [SourceAmerica’s] causes of action for violation of California’s UCL.” Id.

2. SourceAmerica May Not Sue On The Basis Of Any Conduct Or Event On Or Before July 27, 2012.⁵

A release is “the abandonment, relinquishment or giving up of a right or claim to the person against whom it might have been demanded or enforced and its effect is to extinguish the cause of action.” Skilstaf, Inc. v. CVS Caremark Corp., 669 F.3d 1005, 1017 n.10 (9th Cir. 2012). “A general release not only settles enumerated specific differences, but claims of every kind of character, known or unknown.” Crosswhite v. Mid-Mountain Foods, 13 Va. Cir. 8, 9 (Cir. Ct. 1987).

The parties resolved earlier litigation disputes in the Settlement Agreement, and section 3.3 provides:

⁴ Where a defendant has ceased the allegedly wrongful conduct, “an injunction should be denied” under California’s UCL “absent a showing that past violations will probably recur.” Madrid, 130 Cal.App.4th at 465 (internal quotes omitted). Once a defendant shows it has voluntarily ceased the allegedly unlawful conduct, the burden shifts to the plaintiff to “show[] that the conduct will probably recur.” Sun Microsystems, Inc. v. Microsoft Corp., 188 F.3d 1115, 1123 (9th Cir. 1999), *overruled in part on other grounds as stated in* Perfect 10, Inc. v. Google, Inc., 653 F.3d 976, 979 (9th Cir. 2011). California law generally presumes “there is no reasonable probability that the past acts complained of will recur . . . where the defendant voluntarily discontinues the wrongful conduct.” People ex rel. Herrera v. Stender, 212 Cal.App.4th 614, 631 (2012) (internal quotes omitted).

⁵ This argument was raised in Counterdefendants’ Motion to Dismiss (Dkt. 309, at 12-14). SourceAmerica conceded that the Settlement Agreement’s release applies to all conduct, events, and occurrences prior to July 27, 2012 (UMF 15). However, the Court did not address the issue, instead stating that “assuming the Settlement Agreement bars pre-July 27, 2012 conduct, SourceAmerica’s allegations of conduct occurring after the Settlement Agreement are sufficient to state a UCL claim. . . .” (Dkt. 319, at 19:8-17). The Court did not dispose of the pre-Settlement grounds for the UCL claim.

1 In consideration hereof, [SourceAmerica and persons acting on its behalf]
2 hereby release and forever discharge Bona Fide and [its] agents,
3 employees . . . from and against all actions, causes of action, claims,
4 suits, debts, damages, judgments, liabilities, and demands whatsoever,
5 whether matured or unmatured, whether at law or in equity, . . . and
whether now known or unknown, liquidated or unliquidated, that
[SourceAmerica] now has or may have had, or thereafter claim to have
against Bona Fide . . . as of the date a [SourceAmerica] representative
signs this Agreement.

6 (UMF 12). SourceAmerica further agreed to waive the protection of any laws that
7 “provide that a general release does not extend to rights or claims that a party does not
8 know or expect to exist in its favor at the time of executing the release. . . .” (UMF
9 13). SourceAmerica’s then-CEO executed the Settlement Agreement on July 27,
10 2012 (UMF 14).

11 Under Virginia law, “[the] scope of a release agreement, like the terms of any
12 contract, is generally governed by the expressed intention of the parties.” Richfood,
13 Inc. v. Jennings, 255 Va. 588, 591 (1998). “Where parties contract lawfully and their
14 contract is free from ambiguity or doubt, the agreement between them furnishes the
15 law which governs them.” Id.

16 Given the plain, unambiguous language of the Section 3.3, SourceAmerica may
17 not assert against Counterdefendants any claims that it may have had on or before July
18 27, 2012, regardless of whether the claim had accrued or was known to
19 SourceAmerica at that time. Noell Crane Sys. GmbH v. Noell Crane & Serv., 677
20 F.Supp.2d 852, 870 (E.D. Va. 2009); Richfood, 255 Va. at 593.

21 Accordingly, SourceAmerica may not sue on the basis of any conduct or event
22 on or before July 27, 2012.

23 **3. The UCL Does Not Impose Liability For Conduct Occurring Outside**
24 **California’s Borders.**

25 The UCL does not apply to out-of-state plaintiffs for conduct occurring outside
26 California. See Norwest Mortg., Inc., 72 Cal.App.4th at 224-25; Churchill Vill.,
27 L.L.C. v. GE, 169 F.Supp.2d 1119, 1126-27 (N.D. Cal. 2000).

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1 In Sullivan v. Oracle Corp., 51 Cal.4th 1191, 1195-96 (2011), the plaintiffs
2 alleged that their employer, Oracle Corporation, a California software company,
3 violated the FLSA and California law by misclassifying out-of-state employees as
4 exempt and failing to pay overtime. Plaintiffs argued that this policy was an unlawful
5 act under California's UCL because the "decision-making process to classify [non-
6 California plaintiffs] as exempt from the requirement to be paid overtime wages under
7 the FLSA occurred primarily from within the headquarters offices of Oracle
8 Corporation located in Redwood Shores, California." Id. at 1208.

9 The California Supreme Court rejected plaintiffs' argument. "[F]or an
10 employer to adopt an erroneous classification policy is not unlawful in the abstract."
11 Id. at 1208. Instead, the court said, "[w]hat is unlawful, and what creates liability
12 under the FLSA, is the failure to pay overtime when due." Id. Accordingly, the Court
13 held, the mere fact that "Oracle's decision to classify its [employees] as exempt was
14 made in California does not, standing alone, justify applying the UCL to the
15 nonresident plaintiffs' FLSA claims for overtime worked in other states." Id.

16 Applying Sullivan to the facts at hand, acts such as filing litigation in the Court
17 of Federal Claims in Washington, D.C., filing debriefs with SourceAmerica's
18 corporate office in Virginia, etc. (UMF 16-23) should be characterized as out-of-state
19 for purposes of UCL extraterritoriality even if the complaints and filing decisions
20 were made in California. Accordingly, any such alleged conduct occurred out-of-state
21 and is thus barred.

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1 **VI. CONCLUSION**

2 Based on the foregoing, Counterdefendants respectfully request that the Court
3 grant its motion for partial summary judgment in its favor.

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5 Respectfully submitted,

6 **WRIGHT, L'ESTRANGE & ERGASTOLO**

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8 Conglomerate, Inc. and Ruben Lopez

9 Dated: January 25, 2018

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